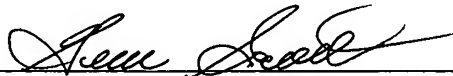


REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

1. Applicant takes notice that the Examiner has not objected to the drawings submitted with this application.
2. Claim status: claims 1-11 are pending in this application. In this application claims 1-11 are rejected under 35 USC §102(b) and/or under 35 USC §103(a) and claims 1-6 are herein amended to traverse these rejections so that claims 1-6 are now in condition for allowance, and Claims 7-11 are hereby cancelled. Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this application for claims 1-6.
3. Claim 1 has been amended to recite the tie-on terminal as being in the form of a mushroom and extending from the crotch, upwardly into the aperture. It is noted that although Brown et al teaches the frame with aperture and Kulp et al teaches the mushroom shaped terminal, both teach away from the combination by not including the other. However, it has been found that the frame provides a benefit to the terminal by shielding it from exposure to potential harm through physical contact. In Brown et al '600 at column 4, line 47 it is seen that handle 38 is primarily used to "facilitate grasping" for moving the channeling device. Kulp et al also teaches mushroom shaped handle 24, in column 3, lines 61-63, as an element for grasping for transport. This shows that although Brown et al '600 conceived of his frame for also tying a tape, an upwardly protruding terminal protected within his frame was not conceived, although Kulp et al was part of the prior art prior to the filing date of Brown et al. Kulp et al was issued in May of 1998 while Brown et al was filed in November of 1998. This shows that Brown et al did not consider, understand or realize the benefits of the combination of the frame with the mushroom shaped terminal within. Likewise, Kulp et al did not understand the advantage of placing a frame about this mushroom shaped terminal for protection since no such consideration is found in Kulp et al. Therefore, the combination cannot be considered obvious because protecting the terminal, and thus the tape tied thereto by placing a frame about the terminal has not been known. Therefore, claim 1 is now in condition for allowance for these reasons and its dependent claims 2-6 are also in condition for allowance for at least the same reasons.
4. The abstract has been amended in accordance with the Examiner's remarks.
5. A petition for 1 month time extension and petition fee are enclosed herewith.

Respectfully submitted,



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Certification

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: "Box Amendment, Commissioner of Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450," on 5/14/04 date of deposit.

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